



# Colorado Crop Progress

NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

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**Agricultural Summary:** Colorado experienced isolated thunderstorms last week with temperatures reported at or slightly above average for the state. Overcast days and cooler temperatures continue to slow the harvesting of several crops. Last week's storms also brought hail to areas of Eastern Colorado. Soil moisture increased as a result of much-needed precipitation. Normal August weather patterns allowed farmers 5.7 days in the field to continue fieldwork and other operations.

## TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	17	28	52	3
Last Week	22	30	43	5
Last Year	10	31	57	2

## SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	35	41	23	1
Last Week	37	42	21	0
Last Year	20	42	37	1

**Small Grains:** Spring wheat was 40 percent harvested by week's end. The crop is rated in good to fair condition. Spring barley was 60 percent harvested by week's end with the crop rated in mostly good to fair condition.

## SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending August 27, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Spring Wheat	11	16	25	36	12
Spring Barley	5	17	33	40	5

**Row Crops:** The corn crop has reached 100 percent at or beyond the silked stage and 67 percent at or beyond the dough stage, 25 percent of the crop was or beyond the dent stage, with 1 percent at or beyond the mature stage. Roughly 15 percent of corn for silage has been harvested. The corn crop currently is rated in mostly good to fair condition. The sorghum crop reached 83 percent at or beyond the headed stage, 32 percent at or beyond the

turning color stage, with 6 percent at or beyond the mature stage by week's end. The crop is rated in mostly good condition. Summer potatoes were 30 percent harvested by week's end and are currently rated in good to excellent condition. The dry onion crop reached 32 percent harvested by week's end and is currently rated in good condition. The sugarbeet crop is rated in mostly good condition. Fall potatoes are progressing nicely under heavy irrigation and are rated in good to fair condition, however elevated levels of precipitation have producers keeping a close eye on mold and other diseases. Dry beans were 100 percent at or beyond the flowered stage with 6 percent cut by week's end. Dry beans were rated in mostly good condition. Sunflowers are rated in good to fair condition.

## ROW CROP CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending August 27, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	4	15	30	42	9
Sorghum	1	10	29	59	1

**Hay:** Producers continue to cut alfalfa with 91 percent of the crop at or beyond the second cutting and 31 percent at or beyond the third cutting. The crop is currently rated in good to fair condition.

**Pasture and Range:** Overall, pasture and range feed conditions improved due to the seasonal temperatures and rainfall.

**Livestock:** Death losses for cattle and sheep were average for the week. Producers continue to feed supplements due to the lack of grazable range and pastures. Many producers are harvesting trying to secure hay for the upcoming winter.

## PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending August 27, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2006	17	29	37	16	1
Prev. Year - 2005	11	25	38	23	3
5-Year Avg.	24	25	30	18	3

## COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week Ending August 27, 2006

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
<b>Spring Wheat</b>				
Harvested	40	35	48	62
<b>Spring Barley</b>				
Harvested	60	37	61	75
<b>Corn</b>				
Silked	100	97	97	99
Dough	67	57	48	60
Dent	25	18	19	22
Mature	1	0	2	2
<b>Corn Silage</b>				
Harvested	15	5	4	8
<b>Sorghum</b>				
Headed	83	71	90	80
Turning color	32	24	24	17
Mature	6	0	2	1
<b>Alfalfa</b>				
2 <sup>nd</sup> cutting	91	85	97	93
3 <sup>rd</sup> cutting	31	20	33	34
<b>Dry Beans</b>				
Flowered	100	96	94	96
Cut	6	1	6	8
<b>Summer Potatoes</b>				
Harvested	30	20	34	35
<b>Dry Onions</b>				
Harvest	32	19	22	33

## COLORADO CROP CONDITION RATINGS <sup>1/</sup>

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<b>Sunflower</b>	3	12	29	49	7
<b>Alfalfa hay</b>	7	15	34	39	5
<b>Dry Onions</b>	4	5	24	55	12
<b>Sugarbeets</b>	6	11	25	50	8
<b>Summer Potatoes</b>	1	11	11	40	37
<b>Fall Potatoes</b>	0	10	31	47	12
<b>Dry Beans</b>	12	6	21	58	3

<sup>1/</sup> Crop condition ratings pertain to emerged plants early in the growing season through plants remaining to be harvested late in the season.